

Serial No. 09/919,733
Attorney Ref. No. 10014834-1

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cont.

30. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 10, wherein said cover includes a substantially planar top surface having an angled leading edge lip for operably engaging the toe-end of said detachable printer component during installation.

31. (Newly Added) The inkjet printer of claim 15, wherein said cover includes a substantially planar top surface having an angled leading edge lip for operably engaging the toe-end of said detachable printer component during installation.

REMARKS

A final Office Action, dated September 11, 2002, rejects pending claims 1-8, 11-14 and 16-20. Claims 9, 10 and 15 are allowed. Claims 1, 11, and 16 have been rewritten herein, and new claims 21-31 have been added.

Since these amendments place the application in condition for allowance, applicants respectfully request that this amendment after final be entered and that the examiner reconsider his grounds for rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9, 10, and 15 are allowed. Applicant has added new claims 21-31 which depend on one of these allowed claims. Accordingly, these new claims should also be allowable and applicants respectfully request that they be entered.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 102(e)

In light of the amendments to independent claims 1, 11, and 16 noted herein, Applicants respectfully traverse the examiner's rejection of claims 1-6, 11, 12, 14 and 16-20 as being anticipated by Kotaki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,619,239).

As explained more fully in the specification of the present application, among other benefits, the cover structure of the present application facilitates proper toe-

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heel insertion of a detachable printer component into its corresponding mount on the printer.

As previously noted, the structures of Kotaki et al. require that the rear bottom corner portion (P3) be inserted into the mounting chamber first as shown below:

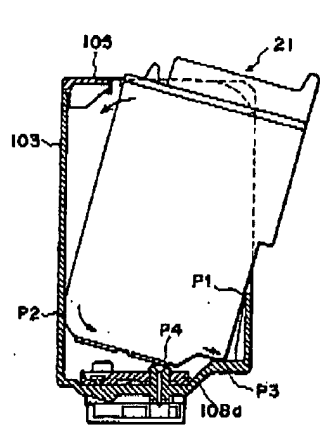


FIG. 6 of Kotaki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,619,239).

Then, the component is essentially pivoted about its rear bottom corner (P3) such that the forward bottom corner portion (P2) is urged in the direction of the adjacent arrow (FIG. 6) while the forward top corner (P5) is simultaneously wedged beneath top wall 105 as shown below:

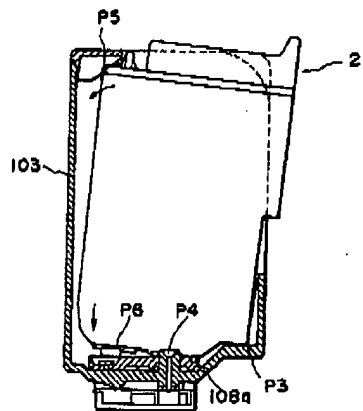


FIG. 8 of Kotaki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,619,239).

The "top wall 105" of Kotaki et al. simply serves as a wedge to drive the forward bottom corner portion (P2) into the mount after the rear bottom portion is seated in its respective mounting portion.

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In contrast, claims 1, 11, and 16 of the present application have now been amended to specifically claim that the toe-end of the detachable printer component is positioned below the cover and pivotaly secured to the mount before the back end of the detachable printer component operably engages the mount.

Claim 1:

In particular, claim 1 of the present application now specifically requires "pivotaly securing said toe-end to said printer" and "said cover preventing said back end from operably engaging [. . .] said mount before said toe-end is pivotaly secured to said toe-end engaging portion of said mount." (Emphasis added).

Claim 11:

Similarly, claim 11 now requires "a mount [. . .] pivotaly engaging said toe-end and operably engaging said back end of said detachable printer component" and "a cover" that prevents the back end "from operably engaging said mount before said toe-end is pivotaly engaging said mount." (emphasis added).

Claim 16:

Also, method claim 16 requires "first pivotaly securing the toe-end of the detachable printer component to the mount by positioning the toe-end below the partial cover" and, "then pivoting the detachable printer component about the toe-end to allow the back end to operably engage the mount thereby securing the detachable printer component to the mount." (emphasis added).

As best shown in FIGS. 6 and 8 of Kotaki et al., Kotaki et al. discloses no such structures or methods, and in fact teaches away from these claimed elements by requiring the rear bottom corner portion (P3) of the ink cartridge to be inserted into the mounting chamber before the forward bottom corner portion (P2), and then wedging the upper surface of the ink cartridge below top wall (105).

The examiner has taken the position that "Kotaki discloses that said toe-end (left end of 21) must be positioned under said cover (105) such that said top surface operably engages said cover (toe-end of 21 engages 103 under 105, Fig. 7) before said back end is secured to said mount (back end of 21 is secured in 103, Fig. 10)." (Examiner's Sept. 9, 2002 Final Rejection, Page 6, lines 3-6). Applicants respectfully

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traverse this position. FIG. 6 of Kotaki et al. (reproduced above) shows the back end engaging the mount before any portion of the printer component engages the cover.

Moreover, as amended herein, claims 1, 11, and 16 now specifically require the toe-end of the printer component to be pivotally secured to the mount. None of the references of record, including Kotaki et al., teach or suggest such a structure. Since these essential elements of these claims are missing from these references, these claims cannot be rendered obvious or anticipated by any references of record, and they should now be allowable. Moreover, since dependent claims 2-8, 12-14, and 17-20 depend on these now allowable claims, they too should be in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Applicants respectfully traverse the examiner's rejection of claims 7, 8 and 13 as being rendered obvious by Kotaki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,619,239) in view of Pinkernell et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,907,018).

Neither of these references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the elements of the present claims as amended herein. As previously noted, Kotaki et al. discloses an ink cartridge operably secured to a mount by wedging a top surface of the ink cartridge below a wall as a last step in securing the ink cartridge in place. Similarly, the spring 62 in Pinkernell et al. performs the same function as the wall in Kotaki et al.

While the spring in Pinkernell et al. does deflect to allow the ink cartridge to be wedged beneath it, Pinkernell et al., like Kotaki et al., neither teaches nor suggests the combination of a mounting portion for pivotally engaging the toe-end and back of a detachable printer component and a pivoting cover that is positioned to require that the detachable ink reservoir be inserted into the mount toe-end first beneath the cover, before the back end can operably engage the mount.

Since these teachings are missing from these references of record, they cannot render claims 7, 8 and 13 obvious. Accordingly, they should be allowed.

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In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that all of the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests that this amendment be entered and the case be passed to issuance. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact applicants' attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

November 12, 2002

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**Attachment A to Amendment
(Redlined amendments to claims)**

1. (Twice Amended) A mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component into a printer comprising:

a detachable printer component having a top surface, a toe-end and a back end;

a mount [secured to the printer for detachably receiving the printer component by operably engaging said toe-end and said back end of said detachable printer component, said mount]~~having a toe-end engaging portion and a back end engaging portion, said toe-end engaging portion operably engaging the toe-end thereby pivotally securing said toe-end to said printer, said back end mounting portion operably engaging said back end when said toe-end is pivotally secured to said toe-end mounting portion and said detachable printer component is pivoted about said toe-end toward said back end mounting portion;~~

a cover operably secured ~~over said chamber and~~[to said mount]extending partially over said toe-end of said detachable printer component when said detachable printer component is secured to said mount defining a neutral position of the cover with respect to the mount [such that in order to allow said toe-end to operably engage said mount, said toe-end must be positioned under said cover such that said top surface operably engages said cover before said back end is secured to said mount.] ~~said cover preventing said back end from operably engaging said back end engaging portion of said mount before said toe-end is pivotally secured to said toe-end engaging portion of said mount.~~

11. (Twice Amended) An Inkjet printer comprising;

a chassis;

a motor;

a carriage operably secured to the chassis and driven by the motor for reciprocal movement relative to the chassis;

a detachable ink reservoir having a top surface, a toe-end and a back end;

a printhead operably secured to the carriage, in fluid communication with said ink reservoir, and in electrical communication with a controller;

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a mount secured to said carriage for detachably receiving said ink reservoir in an ink reservoir chamber by pivotaly [operably] engaging said toe-end and operably engaging said back end of said detachable printer component; and,

a cover operably secured to said mount extending partially over said ink reservoir chamber such that [in order to allow said toe-end to operably engage said mount, said toe-end must be positioned under said cover such that said top surface engages said cover and within said ink reservoir chamber before said back end is secured to said mount.] said back end is prevented from operably engaging said mount before said toe-end is pivotaly engaging said mount.

16. (Amended) A method for ensuring proper toe-heel insertion of a detachable printer component having a top surface, a toe-end and a back end into a mount on a printer, the mount operably engaging the toe-end and the back end of the detachable printer component, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a partial cover over the mount that extends partially over the toe-end of the detachable printer component when the detachable printer component is secured to the mount;

first pivotaly securing [inserting] the toe-end of the detachable printer component [into] to the mount by positioning the toe-end [and] below the partial cover such that the top surface of the detachable printer component operably engages the partial cover and the toe-end is pivotaly secured to the mount [to operably engage the toe-end to the mount]; and,

then pivoting the detachable printer component about the toe-end to allow the back end to operably engage the mount thereby securing the detachable printer component to the mount [lowering the back end of the detachable printer component to the mount to operably engage the back end to the mount.]

--21. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 9, wherein said detachable printer component is an ink reservoir.

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22. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 9, wherein said detachable printer component is an ink/printhead cartridge.

23. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 9, wherein said printer component is a printhead.

24. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 9, wherein said printer is an inkjet printer.

25. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 9, wherein said cover includes a substantially planar top surface having an angled leading edge lip for operably engaging the toe-end of said detachable printer component during installation.

26. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 10, wherein said detachable printer component is an ink reservoir.

27. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 10, wherein said detachable printer component is an ink/printhead cartridge.

28. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 10, wherein said printer component is a printhead.

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29. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 10, wherein said printer is an inkjet printer.

30. (Newly Added) The mechanism for ensuring correct installation of a detachable printer component of claim 10, wherein said cover includes a substantially planar top surface having an angled leading edge lip for operably engaging the toe-end of said detachable printer component during installation.

31. (Newly Added) The inkjet printer of claim 15, wherein said cover includes a substantially planar top surface having an angled leading edge lip for operably engaging the toe-end of said detachable printer component during installation.--

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